

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CREAL SPRINGS SCHOOL IN CREAL SPRINGS, ILLINOIS

### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 18, 2012*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Creal Springs School, in Creal Springs, Illinois, on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary.

Creal Springs was first named Eau Mineral by the French settlers in Southern Illinois who were drawn to the natural springs found in the area. As the town grew, its name was changed to Sulphur Springs and later, Creal Springs, after one of the prominent landowners.

As legend of the curative powers of the sulphur spring waters spread, Creal Springs developed into a thriving resort destination in the late 19th Century.

As the community grew, schools were developed. The Creal Springs Seminary was chartered in 1884 as a college and conservatory of music and was the first college in Williamson County. In 1912–1913, the Creal Springs school building was constructed to provide educational facilities for students from kindergarten to 11th grade.

Initially, there were two grades per classroom on the building's main level while the upper grades were located on the upper level. The upper level also contained an auditorium, complete with a stage and changing areas. The basement contained two merry-go-rounds as well as a wood shop.

As the community and the needs of the school evolved, there would be a number of changes. A new gymnasium was added in 1939 and a new addition for grades K–1 was constructed in 1954. Creal Springs School would become part of Marion Community Unit School District #2 in 1953 and, in the 1970's, community pressure would prevail in keeping the school as grades K through 8.

Through the years, Creal Springs School has received many awards, recognizing its excellence in education. In 1939 it was placed on a list of "Recognized Elementary Schools in Williamson County" and the high school was rated the "Highest 3 year High School of Williamson County." In more recent years the school received the Golden Spike Award and the Academic Improvement Award from the Illinois State Board of Education and, most recently, Creal Springs School won the 2011 Disney's Planet Challenge grand prize for middle schools.

After 100 years of educating the youth of Creal Springs, a new school building has been built and will be ready to welcome the students for the 2012–2013 school year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the administration, faculty, staff and students of Creal Springs School as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary.

HONORING THE THREE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE 26-YEAR-LONG CIVIL WAR IN SRI LANKA

### HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 18, 2012*

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the three year anniversary of the end of the 26-year-long civil war in Sri Lanka.

Although this war ended three years ago, and a United Nations panel of experts found evidence of war crimes and the Government-established Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission called for an inquiry into the events surrounding February 21, 2002 to May 19, 2009, a credible plan of action has yet to be determined.

Evidence of child soldiers, the killing of captives and combatants seeking to surrender, large-scale shelling of "No Fire Zones," and the rape and torture of civilians fleeing the conflict zone are extremely serious. Serious crimes such as these—committed against civilians on such a large scale during war—must be investigated and those responsible held accountable. Accountability is important for the benefit of the victims and their families—for the trust necessary for reconciliation in Sri Lanka to be established and for the entire structure of the rules of war on which our soldiers and all innocent civilians depend.

A resolution recently adopted in March by the United Nations Human Rights Commission "calls upon the Government of Sri Lanka to implement the constructive recommendations made in the report of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission and to take all necessary additional steps to fulfill its relevant legal obligations and commitment to initiate credible and independent actions to ensure justice, equity, accountability and reconciliation for all Sri Lankans." Furthermore the UNHRC Resolution "requests the Government of Sri Lanka to present, as expeditiously as possible, a comprehensive action plan detailing the steps that the Government has taken and will take to implement the recommendations made in the Commission's report, and also to address alleged violations of international law."

Mr. Speaker, the government of Sri Lanka needs to take concrete action that brings accountability and reconciliation and puts forth an implementation plan if the people of Sri Lanka are to move forward.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me and co-sponsor House Resolution 177 commending the international community in pressuring the government of Sri Lanka to acknowledge their crimes against humanity and to move forward with a reconciliation process.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 18, 2012*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, on May 17th, I was unable to vote on rollcall 263, to H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act of FY13. This was Representative ROHR-

ABACHER's amendment, prohibiting the availability of funds for assistance to Pakistan in Fiscal Year 2013. I wish to have the RECORD show I would have opposed this amendment.

### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 17, 2012*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chair I rise in support of amendment No. 46 to H.R. 4310 "National Defense Authorization Act," NDAA, offered by Ranking Member ADAM SMITH and Rep. JUSTIN AMASH. It would strike section 1022 of the FY2012 NDAA and amends Section 1021 of same Act to eliminate indefinite military detention of any person detained under AUMF authority in U.S., territories or possessions by providing immediate transfer to trial and proceedings by a court established under Article III of the Constitution of the United States or by an appropriate State court.

This amendment would bar any President or any other government official from ordering the military to put anyone in the United States, or its territories or possessions, into indefinite detention without charge or trial, or to put anyone in the United States on trial before a military commission.

Federal criminal courts are open, operating, experienced, and secure—and are the appropriate venue for any proceedings here in the United States itself.

The Bill of Rights applies to all persons within the United States and its territories, this amendment is consistent with 232 years of constitutional precedent as it does not pick and choose between which persons on located on U.S. soil will receive constitutional protections.

Further, the amendment bars the transfer of anyone in the United States to the military for indefinite detention without charge or trial. This provision is consistent with the Posse Comitatus Act, and would provide an additional protection against any misuse of civilian law enforcement as a way to put suspects into military detention without charge or trial.

It is fully consistent with the Constitution, with the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878, and with the Non-Detention Act of 1971. It will reinforce the protections that most Americans assume apply—and do apply—within the United States.

Since 2001, this executive power has only been utilized 3 times which makes it clear that it is not necessary to protect our national security; however, creates a gap in our civil liberties.

This amendment would repeal section 1022 of last year's NDAA. Section 1022 requires the military to put some civilian suspects into military detention.